

INTERAGENCY ECOLOGICAL PROGRAM

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Delta Stewardship Council – Independent Science Board
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Sent via email to Kelly.Souza@deltacouncil.ca.gov

Subject: Independent Science Board Exploration of a Monitoring Review

The Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) Coordinators look forward to learning more about your exploration of monitoring activities in the Delta. We see your effort as particularly important because monitoring in the Delta is conducted by a broad range of entities for various purposes with no one entity including the IEP having a scope that covers the broad range of activities. In particular, we hope your effort will help find opportunities to address several areas:

- *How can monitoring conducted by others be better integrated, both within the Delta and larger watershed?* There is a need for a clearer understanding of the breadth of all the data that is collected, why it is being collected, who is collecting it, how it is being used, and how it can be brought together effectively. No one entity has a handle on it all.
- *How can monitoring better adapt for the uncertainty of a changing ecosystem?* There is a need to ensure robust monitoring in consideration of uncertainty of the ecosystem with climate change or regime shifts as well as the future needs of those who rely on the information for regulatory and planning purposes.
- *How can monitoring provide a more holistic understanding of the ecosystem?* A large portion of monitoring is driven by compliance, operations, and priority decisions. Less emphasis is placed on system-wide core monitoring metrics useful to detect status and trends in the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The Coordinators look forward to talking with you on this important topic. If you have any questions, please call me at (209) 234-3496 or email me at gregg.erickson@wildlife.ca.gov

Gregg Erickson
Chair, IEP Coordinators

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